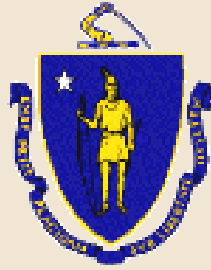


Boston Harbor Islands Resource Management Plan



DCR Public Meeting

December 9, 2014; 6:30 - 8:00 p.m.
100 Cambridge Street, Boston



Commonwealth of Massachusetts

Governor
Deval L. Patrick

Energy and Environmental Secretary
Maeve Vallely Bartlett

Department of Conservation and Recreation Commissioner
John P. Murray

DCR Mission Statement



View from Spectacle Island (Photo by Nancy A. Santry)

To protect, promote and enhance our common wealth of natural, cultural and recreational resources for the well being of all.

Tonight's Meeting

- Presentation
 - Background on DCR Resource Management Plans
 - Harbor Islands Resource Management Plan Process
- Public Input



Fort Andrews Parade Ground

RMP Requirements

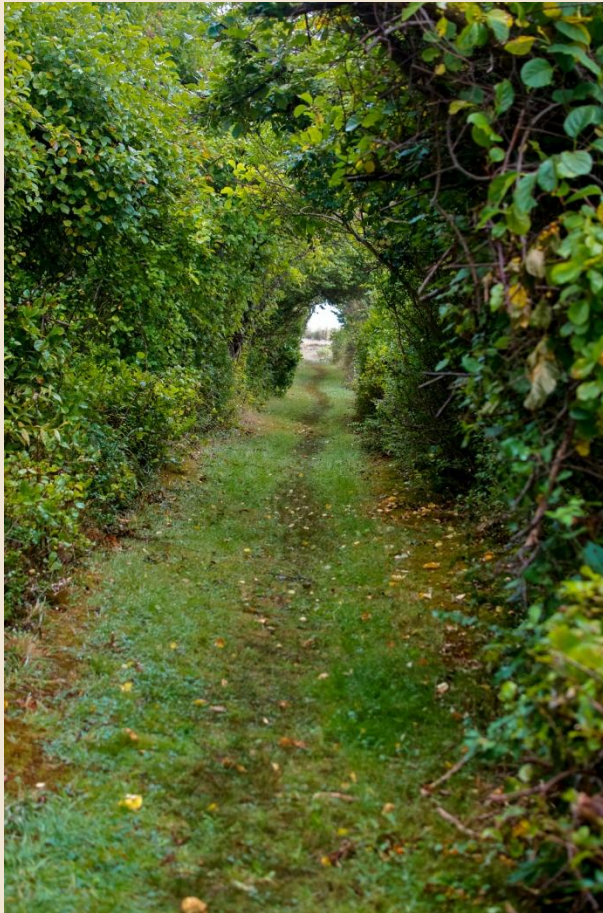
Management plans are prepared for “all reservations, parks, and forests under the management of the department”

M.G.L. Chapter 21; Section 2F



Georges Island

RMP Requirements



Island Tunnel (Kerry Hawkins)

“shall include guidelines for the operation and land stewardship of...reservations, parks and forests”

“shall provide for the protection and stewardship of natural and cultural resources”

“shall ensure consistency between recreation and resource protection”

M.G.L. Chapter 21; Section 2F

Resource Management Plans (RMPs):

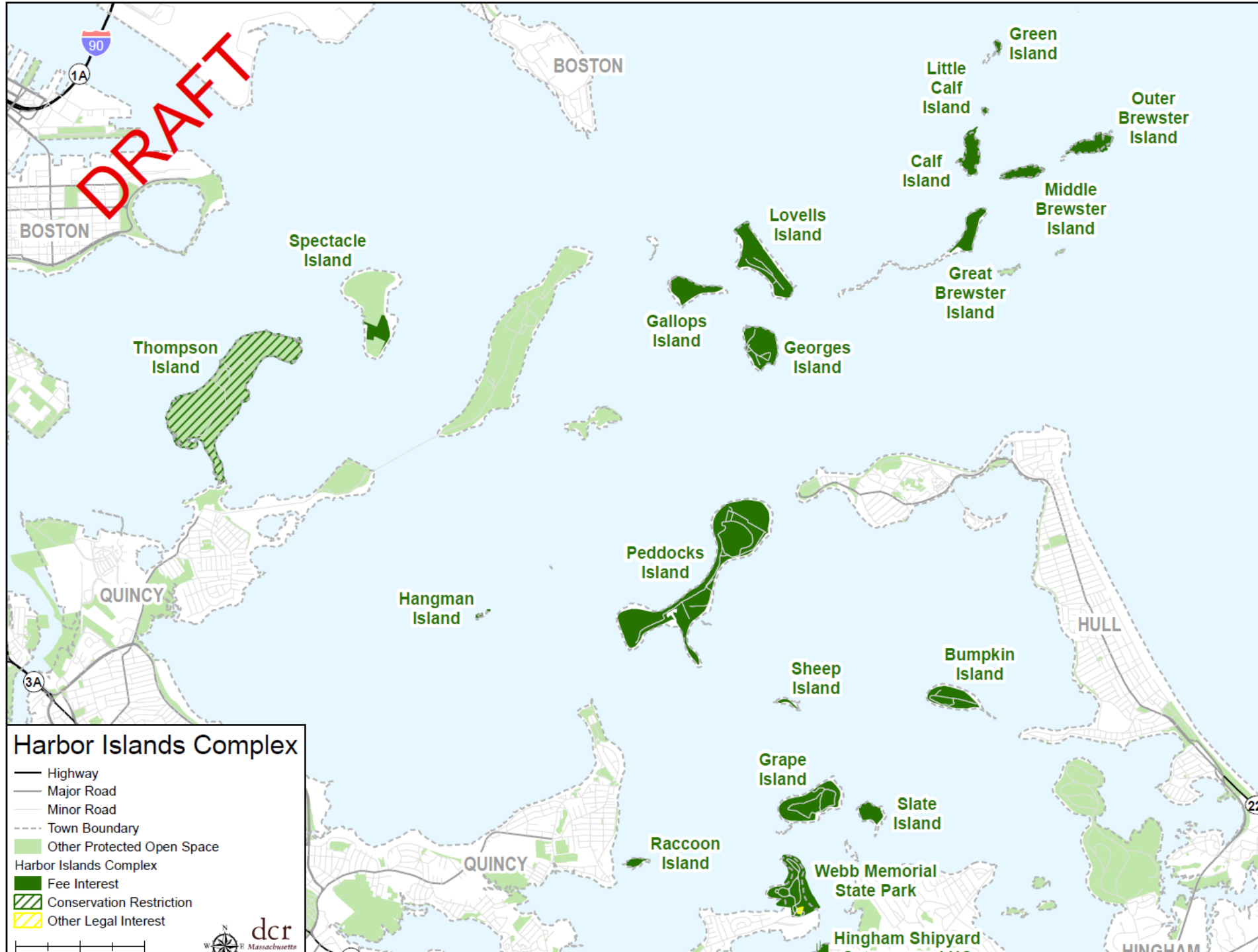
- Are working documents that consider the past, present and future of a property
- Provide a guide to the short and long-term management of properties under the stewardship of the DCR
- Set priorities for capital and operating budgets, and resource allocation
- Enhance communication and cooperation with visitors, partners and surrounding communities

Operational Complex



- DCR manages 385 properties
- These facilities are managed by 32 field operation teams.
- RMPs cover all properties in an operational complex to provide management guidance to each field operation team.
- This RMP covers all facilities located in the Harbor Islands complex.

DRAFT



RMP Contents



Park Ranger (Tom Kates)

- Existing Conditions
 - Natural Resources
 - Cultural Resources
 - Recreation Resources
 - Major Infrastructure
 - Management Resources and Practices
- Land Stewardship Zoning
- Management Recommendations

Natural Resource Features



Common Eider



- 17 islands and one peninsula
- 662 acres of uplands
- 546 acre inter-tidal area
- MWRA project vastly improved water quality and aquatic habitat
- 5 State-listed animal species
- 2 state-listed rare plant species
- 2 priority Natural Communities

Cultural Resource Features



Gallops Island Radio School

- 20 documented prehistoric archaeological sites
- 14 islands in the BHI National Archaeological District
- Fort Warren registered as a National Historic Landmark
- Fort Andrews eligible for listing on National Register
- Peddocks cottage community

Recreational Activities



Bumpkin Island Camping



Webb State Park Kayaking

- 3 gateway islands with visitor centers
- 6 islands served by public ferry service
- Visitation up 35% from 2009
- 96% visitors satisfied with their visit
- Food service on Georges and Spectacle Island
- Camping on 4 Islands

Major Infrastructure

- Sea walls and jetties
- 8 Piers with floats and ramps
- Fort Warren and Andrew
- 3 Visitor centers
- 3 Maintenance Buildings
- 12 Shade shelters
- Sewer, water, electric and communication utilities



Great Brewster Seawall



Georges Island Viewing Tower

Management Challenges



Invasive Plant Removal



Georges Island Beach Grass Planting

- Improve shoreline protection
- Invasive species management
- Protection of rare species habitat, cemeteries & archaeological sites
- Reuse of historic buildings
- Fort maintenance BMPs
- Develop uniform signage system
- Georges Is. back up water supply
- Pier and float maintenance plan

Time Frame*

December 9, 2014

First Public Meeting on RMP process

January 9, 2015

End of 30-day Public Comment Period

May 2015

Second Public Meeting on Draft RMP

June 2015

End of 30-day Public Comment Period

July 2015

Final Draft RMP submitted to DCR
Stewardship Council for review and
adoption

August 2015

Post Final RMP on DCR website

* Dates subject to change

Public Input



Chillaxing on Georges Island (Jeanine Farley)

- Questions on RMP Process?
- Natural Resources
- Cultural Resources
- Recreational Resources
- Major Infrastructure
- Management Priorities

Additional Information

For more information please visit the DCR web site:

<http://www.mass.gov/eea/agencies/dcr/public-outreach/public-meetings/>

If you have comments or suggestions:

- Email: dcr.updates@state.ma.us (please note "Harbor Islands RMP" in email subject line)
- Write: Department of Conservation and Recreation
Office of Public Outreach
251 Causeway Street, Suite 900
Boston, MA 02114
- Call: 617-626-4974

Note: Public comments submitted to DCR by email or letter will be posted on the DCR website in their entirety.